



## United States-Israel Common Defense Authorization Act

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Congressman Josh Gottheimer (NJ-05) and Congressman Brian Mast (FL-18)

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Following their visit to Israel over the summer, Congressmen Josh Gottheimer (D-NJ) and Brian Mast (R-FL) announced the introduction of the bipartisan U.S.-Israel Common Defense Authorization Act. This legislation would authorize the President to take urgent actions to ensure our vital ally Israel's security should Iran seek nuclear weapons.

Several provisions in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) agreement will expire in the next decade, including restrictions on centrifuges at key Iranian facilities by 2026. This bill would authorize the President to transfer to Israel the Massive Ordnance Penetrator (MOP), a precision-guided, 30,000-pound "bunker buster" bomb capable of destroying Iran's underground nuclear infrastructure.

Experts including **General David Petraeus** and **Ambassador Dennis Ross** have long supported providing "bunker buster" munitions to Israel as one way to "put some teeth into the nuclear deal with Iran."

[\(Washington Post\)](#)

There should be nothing partisan about our national security, nor our relationship with our ally Israel. The bipartisan U.S.-Israel Common Defense Authorization Act will help shore up Israel's Qualitative Military Edge (QME) in the region and secure both countries from the threat of a nuclear-armed Iran by:

- Requiring the President and Secretary of Defense to conduct a study with Israel to determine Israel's ability to defend itself against a nuclear-armed Iran, including whether "bunker buster" technology would advance the both countries' national interest and report to Congress within 180 days.
- Authorizing the President to take actions to ensure Israel is prepared for all contingencies if Iran seeks to develop a nuclear weapon when provisions in the JCPOA begin to expire.
- Upgrading Israeli infrastructure to store "bunker buster" munitions, training Israeli personnel, and transferring these munitions to Israel if doing so is in the national security interests of both countries.
- Conducting joint research and development with Israel to enhance both countries defensive capabilities to destroy underground infrastructure, including Hezbollah's rocket storage and factories, and Iranian nuclear facilities.